SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1878.

Amusements To-Day.

American Institute Exhibition -65d st. and 5d av. Broadway Theatre - The New Magdalen, Matines. exery Theatre-Flying Datchman. Fifth Avenue I bentre - Romeo and Juliet. Matines Grand Opera House - The New Fitts. Matines. Haymarket Theater - Variety, Matines. Lyceum Theatre-Josha Willcomb. Matines Sew York Aquartum Broadway and John st. Niblo's Garden-Mazepps. Matines. Park Thentre-Horricanes. Matines. San Francisco Minsteels - Broadway, cor. 29th st.

Standard Theatr. Palse Title
Theatre Comique Variety. Matinee.
Theatre Brighton Variety Matinee.
Tony Pastor's Princie Minstrels, &c. laion Square Theatre Oliva Wallach's Theatre-School for Scandal.

### Panic Among Officeholders.

Since the tidal wave of 1874 no event has occurred in politics which so startled the most impossible. If any State in the Union was considered firmly anchored in the faith and less liable than all others to be shaken by an angry blast of defection, Maine may be said to have enjoyed that distinction. It was run like a close corporation, the scrip loaned as the necessities of the party required.

In fact, the Senator supposed he had a fee treated it as a personal possession, the title | throughout Europe. to which no man would dare dispute. He had the utmost confidence in the usual majority, and like some of the chief victims of the French revolution, who were gay and festive and unconscious of danger long after the rumblings of the volcano had spread alarm, Mr. BLAINE went to the far West to stump where his aid was not needed, and then hastened home, upon sudden summons, to find his sceptre departed. So Mr. HALE, Chairman of the Congressional Committee, would not admit the possibility of defeat until he found himself hoisted out of a seat in Congress by an "ignorant mechanic," whom he

couted as a competitor for that honor. All the excuses made for this result are mere after-thoughts, and devices conjured up to deceive the unwary. Instead of the vote being light, as is pretended in some quarters, it exceeded the aggregate of last year by 24,504, and was only 1,071 below the total cast for TILDEN and HAYES. The distribution of the vote shows that the Democrats took the Greenback club to crack the Republican skull, as they are likely to do in Massachusetts and other States, where they

have been in a hopeless minority heretofore The chronic officeholder is, perhaps, of all others, the man with the sharpest scent as to coming political changes. He watches Conventions, primaries, new departures, and elections, as the weather bureau does the rise and fail of the barometer. They all have a significance for him, to which the outsixteen years he and his friends have been and fattening all the year round, hardly ever doing an honest day's work, and thei chief business, of late, has been to glorify the grandeur of Grantism, to uphold the carpet-baggers, and to distribute documents for the campaign committees.

These patriots had kept a keen lookout on the new movement, but they never dreamed that it could have the audacity to assail their Gibraltar in Maine. They had been bar, that was on trial before them. At all assured by Blaine, Hale, and the other events, they acquitted Vera Sassulitch in members of that corporation, that all was the face of her plea of guilty. well, and when BLAINE started off on his star tour their faith was strong ters committed the blunder of allowing this feelings of these ardent supporters of the Government tribunal under a political salaries, when the news was flashed over the that the suggestion came from Count Panwhen assurance was made doubly sure, the gloom in the departments at Washington was as if some terrible scourge had desolated the households of their occupants.

Six or seven thousand props of the Government and pillars of the Republican erown. As to the issue of the trial he enterchurch who had come to consider that the Treasury was created for their special use. and that the country could not prosper without their official countenance, suddenly discovered that the world moved. Since this light dawned upon them happiness has an Lonorary citizen, and some men of the gone out of their official lives. They look upon the future of free institutions as dark that the accused herself would plead and forbidding, since they may not be permitted to sustain them at two or three or four thousand a year.

Many have already given up and are striving to prepare for what they believe to be an inevitable change. Others have become remarkably conservative inside a week. They are far more tolerant of opponents than formerly, and are great admirers of the era of good feeling, when the lamb and the lion may lie down together, opinion's sake. Upon reflection, they are much power, and they think now it would had occasionally been allowed a majority in one branch of Congress.

JOHN SHERMAN'S change of front in face of the enemy, right on the eve of the fall elections, has intensified the panic among the officeholders. They know that a desperate step like that would never have been taken unless the case was almost hopeless. As a consequence, large numbers are deserting the sinking ship. They have found a strong sympathy with the demand for change, and discovered ties with the Democracy which bind them closely to some of the leaders, and many are free to say HAYES was never elected and TILDEN ought to be seated. Converts multiply daily, and the Maine election has worked wonders, besides giving JAMPS G. BLAINE an indefinite leave of absence. He can now repeat the curt saying of Monsteur Le Sage, after the Frederickshall, "Gentlemen, the game is up, let us be going."

# The Fifth District of New Jersey.

New Jersey have nominated the Hon. CHARLES H. VOOFHIS for Congress. Judge he is a strong man.

This turn of affairs renders it absolutely necessary for the Democrats to throw aside | tainted, the institution of the jury had fallen CUTLER, the present member, if they wish so low as to be totally untouched by the to stand the slightest chance of carrying | current of moral aspirations, and to merely

Fraud, and so thoroughly indignant are a large proportion of the Democrats of the district at his cowardice and treachery on this vital issue, that if he has the temerity to run he will be overwhelmingly beaten. Why anybody, in an emergency like the practically condemned. present, and contrary to the settled usages of the party in the counties of Bergen, Passale, and Morris, should try to force the nomination of so inconsiderable a person as A. W. CUTLER, is not easily accounted for.

The Republicans of the district are very eager and noisy in favor of Curtire's candidacy. Judge Voorbus's Republican backing in Hackensack, where he resides, and the old, corrupt Democratic Hackensack Ring, seem to be deeply interested in bringing out Curnen!

Unless the Democrats in the district wish present some other candidate than CUTLER.

## The Case of Vera Sassulitch.

Attempts have not been wanting, during the past two years, to point out the essen tial hollowness of Russian civilization and loyal Republicans as the recent election in the superficial character of Russian reforms. Maine. They were not only unprepared for | The truth, however, might for some time it, but regarded such a contingency as al- have been palliated and disguised but for a remarkable proceeding, in which the Czar's Ministers encountered the outraged conscience of the nation. We refer to the trial of the young girl Vera Sassuliten for an assault with intent to kill, which has disclosed to the world the actual state of things of which was carried in the pocket of Mr. in a country commissioned, according to Mr. BLAINE, and was hypothecated, traded, or | GLADSTONE, to "exportfreedom" for the benefit of Eastern Christians. All the details of the case are now before us, and they deserve to be noted in connection with the simple in the soil of the State, and rather almost ananimous verdict of public opinion

The story of VERA SASSULITCH, before her attempt to assassinate Gen. TREPOFF, the late Chief of Police, was well calculated to challenge the most poignant sympathy. It is the record of the arbitrary imprisonment, and exile in distant provinces, of an innocent, helpless girl, who, under no distinct charge whatever, but upon mere suspicion, was for eleven years driven round and round the empire in what has been aptly termed an infernal circle of sufferings. Yet it seems to have been the wrong inflicted upon another which finally provoked her to an act of violence. It seems that the man BOGOLGIOBOFF, whom she undertook to avenge, had been subjected, as a political prisoner, to infamous corporal punishment by the Chief of Police; and the description of his chastisement with rods by the counsel for the accused formed one of the most sensational incidents in the trial. The bitter invective of the advocate was vehemently applauded by the audience, which, like the jury, was mainly composed of gentlemen and ladies of the higher classes, some of whom had had personal experience of the mode of castigation reserved for political offenders. In the course of his speech Miss Sassultich's counsel gave a description of a so-called whipping machine. Any suspected person, it appears, who could not be brought to trial, but whom it was intended to admonish, would be invited to call at the office of the Secret Police. After a side world generally may be indifferent. For | few moments' conversation the floor would suddenly give way beneath the visitor's feet. living generously at the public crib, feasting and he would find himself suspended by the waist. Then upon that part of the body be low the floor invisible rods would swiftly perform their office, the trap door would rise again, and the visitor would be bowed out with profound courtesy and with sub-

stantial reminders of his interview. The

jury seems to have considered that it was

tenceless victims, and not the prisoner at the

the system of arbitrary outrage against de

How did it happen that the Czar's Minisenough to move a mountain. Imagine the offender, who might have been judged by a wires that Maine was lost! The next day LEN himself, at that time the Russian Minister of Justice, who thought the public imagination would be less struck by the affair if it were divested of State importance, and that a verdict of guilty pronounced by jurors would at least rob the prisoner of a martyr's A Singular Defect in the Common tained no doubt, and the names of the twelve jurors selected sufficiently explain his confidence. Among them were not less than seven Aulic, Collegiate, and Titulary Councillors, the remainder including a nobleman, learned class. Moreover, it was well known guilty. The result of these clever arrangements was a woful miscarriage, but of course the Government knew, after the verdict had been given, how to cure their disappointment. By a simple ordinance the verdict was quashed, and the rearrest of Miss Sassulitch, who had mysteriously disappeared on the day of her release, was enjoined by the Secret Police Office. A fresh trial was ordered to be held at Novgorod, and measures are now under way for a and there will be no proscription for change of the whole jury system, and the more efficient discipline of lawyers who have disposed to condemn the harsh measures of to defend an accused. Count Pahlen, the their old friends as being the excess of too | Minister of Justice, lost his office, and Gen. TREPOFF himself was dismissed, not from have been better, perhaps, if the Democrats | any desire, apparently, to conciliate public opinion, but because the will made after the issault, when he was supposed to be at death's door, revealed the magnitude of his official corruption. This man, who had begun life as a foundling, was shown to have unac-

countably amassed a fortune of 3,000,000 The pequittal of VERA SASSULITCH after she had pleaded guilty, by a jury made up of Aulie Councillors and other titled dignitaries, attests the deep moral rebellion which exists throughout the more thinking unbearable tyranny of the ROMANOFF Government. This acquittal was accepted with joy by those Russian journals which mustered courage for the moment to hurl aside the gag, as a final and explicit sentence of guilty against Czardom. All over Europe the verdict of the St. Petersburg jury has death of Charles XII, at the battle of met with open approval, or at least a lenient judgment. This is true not only of the liberal French press and of English organs dopinion, but in Germany such a legal authority as Franz von Holtzendorff finds The Republicans of the Fifth District of himself unable to condemn it. Who can help it, he says, if an injustice committed day after day in the name of the State, Voormis is one of those respectable, medium, without any explation, without apology, negative sort of men, who always poll the | weighs more heavily upon the public confull vote of their party. This will make him | science than the act of a single person, who a stronger candidate than either William undertakes by risking his own life to rise Walter Phelpsor John Hill, ex-Congress- with a feeling of righteous wrath against so at hand in Massachusetts to tell them all men, or Francis Howland of Englewood rotten a system? It is within his knowledge, would have been, whom Voorinis beat in the he adds, that prominent Russian officials Convention of Thursday on the final ballot. gave their applause to that verdict. Con-In a word, Voorhts will gather up every sidering the grievous political condition of Republican vote, and from that point of view the northern empire, the German publicist finds in the acquittal of VERA SASSULITCH a ground of hope. If in a State so deeply

be far more ominous of civic decay and death, stand this sort of thing? and therefore at bottom more reprehensible than the strange verdict of not guilty, by which a whole scheme of government was

## A Puzzled Magistrate.

An interesting question of law has arisen in the case against the Rev. Mr. HAVDEN, at Madison, Connecticut. The counsel for the prosecution seek to put in evidence certain declarations made by MARY STANNARD, the girl whom he is alleged to have murdered. To these declarations the counsel for the prisoner strenuously object, on the ground that they were not made in Mr. HAYDEN'S they do not constitute such a part of what to see their party torn to pieces, they must | lawyers call the res geste-that is to say, the things done, or, in this case, the homicide as to justify their admission. They were not made at the time of the killing or the place of the killing, and some of them are even said to have been uttered by the deceased in a different town from that in which she met her death.

This question is admitted by both sides to be of the utmost importance. Our correspondent gives it as the opinion of the prosecuting counsel that its disposition by the trial court will determine the fate of Mr. HAYDEN. The pending inquiry, however, is only a preliminary investigation before a magistrate to ascertain whether or not there is a case of probable guitt against the prisoner. But much depends upon the declarations of the deceased, even in this proceeding; and it was the plain duty of the clergyman's counsel to object to them and endeavor to keep them out.

This having been done, it devolved upon the magistrate to decide the question of law which was thus presented to him. He had heard arguments upon it by the legal | Clever as he is, Master Louis finds himself uncounsel of the accused. The law fibraries of Connecticut afforded him access to all the precedents and authorities. With the light obtained from these sources, he should have considered the question most carefully and then decided it to the best of his ability But instead of doing this, he announced that he would go to New Haven and ask the Judge of some higher court how he ought

to decide. We do not believe that such a course is proper. Under the laws of the State of Connecticut this magistrate is charged with cer tain duties-judicial duties which he cannot delegate to others, however high may be the court of which they happen to be members. It is true, he may avail himself of the benefit of arguments by counsel to aid him in the discharge of his duties; but those arguments must be made in open court, or ommunicated by one side to the other, so that the prosecution and defence are both fully heard. But this is very different from hearing what is really an argument in private; an argument which affords no opportunity of reply; an argument by some one who rests under no sworn obligation in the case, and who incurs no responsibility for his utterances. Yet the advice from the Judge of some higher court which is to be solicited in the HAYDEN case will virtually be an argument of precisely such a char-

We know that Judges sometimes consult their brother Judges out of court on cases which the latter have not heard argued, but we do not think the practice can be approved. It is defended on the ground that no harm can come from the discussion of questions of law in this way; but we do not think that Judges ought to help decide even such questions, when they were not present at the argument. If one Judge can call manner, why may he not, with equal propriety, consult any member of the bar on the same subject? A Judge so consuited speaks under no official sanction, but merely as an individual. The practice, logically Constitution and all the amendments, at big charge, to be tried before a jury? It seems carried out, justifies a Judge in asking any tion of law. We think he should act unaided argument and the decisions of courts reported in the books. Judges incompetent to do this ought to give place to abler men.

Schools of Massachusetts. It is the common schools which have don it. So the Massachusetts orators always say, and we believe them. It is the common schools which make a State, comparatively small in territory, so influential in the Union and so rich and prosperous at home.

Recent events, however, go to show that the education in regard to their own State

Recent events, however, go to show that the education in regard to their own State in the common schools of Massachusetts must be defective. Woreester is one of the largest towns, or eithes in that ancient commonwalth; yet five hundred grown up men who assembled there a few days since to hold a Democratic State Convention, all labored under the deutsion that it was a fittle country village with only one public hail! When they were deprived of that hail they incontinently adjourned to Beston.

Great as is the deliciency in the knowledge of one of their own chief towns which has thus been made manifest, the lack of moral quantities shown by those five hundred delegates must be regarded as still more remarkable. They showed no courage, no persecurence, no determination whatever. They might have net on the steps of the Bay State House, or on any one of the reautiful surre-indug hills. They might have met on the steps of the Bay State House, or on any one of the reautiful surre-indug hills. They might have waited till the Burtlat delegates were through and have held their Convention in the same hall at night. As they boast so much of their common schools, and this exhibition was so supremely rideulous, we are not sure that how to hold a State Convention ought no schools, and this exhibition was so supremely rideulous, we are not sure that how to hold a State Convention ought not be taught as an elementary branch of education hereafter. The main point would be held, whether they could have a particular hall to hold it in or not.

Those five hundred delegates resolved to meet in Faneuii Hall. If they cannot get that they may probably apply for hundred few hundred delegated in the state of the separation of the various particular hall to hold it in or not.

These five hundred delegates resolved in meet in Faneuii Hall. If they cannot get that they may probably apply for independence Hall in Philadelphia. But in either of those halls they may find five five hundred delegates root such and there is a nanu rouly at hand i and enlightened class in Russia against the be that when five hundred grown up men

distress he certainly will take pity on them and point out the pathway. The man is GEORGE S. BOUTWELL; and the place is the famous Hole in the Sky which that astute gentleman discovered during the impeachment trial of Andrew Johnson.

The trotting meeting in Prospect Park yesterday culminated in a row between wellthe district. So inexcusably bad is CUTLER's | register with mechanical obedience the para- | known horsemen, and the declaring off of the | readers

record in the present Congress on the Great | graphs of a code of law, such a phenome- | free-for-all trot, the best contest of the meeting. non, in von Holtzenborff's opinion, would on a slim pretence. How long can the tracks

> A month or two ago the announcement that a case of yellow fever, or something suspiciously like it, had been discovered in a hotel n one of our busiest thoroughfares would have other guests of the hotel in question are disturbed by the report that they have had Yellow Jack for a fellow lodger. But the frosts are now ose at hand, and all the authorities agree that the danger is past for this year. Other isolated enses may be discovered in the city—the wonder to that there haven't been more of them-but there will be no epidemic.

The grievance of the Southern Cheyenne Indians, according to Gen. SHERIDAN, is that presence, and on the further ground that they are kept in a state of starvation by the agents. For protesting against this grievance by decamping from the agency, they are now being pursued by our troops, and Gen. Shear-DAN has a strong hope that they will be destroved. Such are the beauties of our military policy. Reduce the army to ten thousand men.

If THOMAS CASSIDY had stuck to cold water all day Thursday, he would not have been knocked down and robbed by fellow tosspots on Thursday night. If the Wall street broker who came within an acc of blowing out penceable colored man's brains on a Fulton ferryboat early yesterday morning had been sober, he would not have fired the shot which landed him in a police station cell. If ALICE BURKE had let Houor alone, she would not have pital. Probably both of the wife beaters in ourt yesterday had been at the whiskey bottle before they committed their cowardly crime There are several thousand too many whiskey shops in New York city.

It would have been better for the smart boy, Louis Scarrell, if he had been born a stupid boy, with enough dull honesty to have kept him out of the business of passing forged cheeks, no matter who urged him to go into it. representatives of the State and the chosen | der lock and key. The forged checks are said to be masterpieces in their way, and it is hinted that the arrest of Louis and his brother-in-law is likely to have important sequels.

The first important effect of the British occupation of Cyprus appears in the order just issued for the emancipation of all slaves there. In Cyprus, as in other Turkish countries, th aves consist chiefly of females, bought for the harem-most of them sold by Christian parents and negroes or Ethiopians used in do service. As Cyprus is a wretchedly poor island. and the population is estimated not to exceed 60,000, the number of slaves and slaveholders is not great. The liberators will not find much commotion among the female slaves when the news reaches them-if it should reach themthat they are free to go or stay.

The Court street sidewalks in Brooklyn were yesterday thronged with excited spectators, gazing through the windows of the Demoeratic General Committee's rooms at a strange sight. Chairs and spittoons were flying about. lists were energetically used, pistol barrels glittered in the sunlight, and the yells and shouts of many struggling men made a deafening din. we which eries of "police" and "murder were heard. The belligerents were members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and what they were breaking one another's heads about is elsewhere explained.

The new edition of the Revised Statutes has been completed by Mr. BOUTWELL, after a year and a half of patient and plodding labor. The volume will contain about 1,450 pages, and, having passed through the last forms of scrutiny, has been stereotyped, and will be issued from the Government printing office in a few weeks. The only new feature introduced in this work is a citation from all the decisions of the Supreme Court, bearing upon the construcon of any part of the Constitution, to follow immediately after the article or section which furnishes the subject of commentary. This is an improvement which must prove of value another to his assistance, privately, in this to the legal profession, and to public men who do not care to investigate for themselves.

# THINGS MIXED IN PENNSYLVANIA.

## Nationals Hopeful, Democrats Perplexed, and PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18.—The result of the

the Republican politicians of this city and State by any advice save that derived from open | They are at a loss what to do. The western and northern counties, heretofore the strengholds of the party, are very much impregnated with nationalism, while east of the mountains, with the exception of Schuylkill and Luzerne, the hard money theory prevails. Yet in the west and north the Republican campaign is being fought by Grow and other leaders on an honest money platform, while in this city three five members of Congress nominated by the Republicans are Greenbackers and Labor mon. and had previously secured the National nominations. Judge Kelly everybody knows as the most pronounced greenback inflationist in the State; Mr. Randall's competitor is a Labor-Greenback Communist of the Kearney stripe, while Harmer, in accepting the nomina-

A sumptuous volume containing the Lives of the I ish Martyrs and Coursears, by Dr. Myles O Reilley, with additions, including a history of the Penal Laws, by the Rev. Richard Breunan, is published by James Shechy In the compass of 750 pages the lives of nearly 400 Trish men and Irish women, distinguished for their devotion to ie cause of Ireland and to the Catholic religion, are nar rated at as much length as is necessary to give an adequate idea of their sufferings and their heroism. It is a very handsome volume, and must find innumeral

THE BENEFITS OF CREEDMOOR.

Some Results of New York Militia Rifle Practice-What Col. Clark Says. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Your

correspondent, "M. V. M.," in saying, in his letter of Sept. 9, that he " had been unable to learn of any very brilliant returns from rifle practice caused wide uncasiness. Even as it is, the in New York," shows himself to be either uninformed of what is well known to all military men, or else to be too much affected by local prejudice to do justice.

The facts in regard to New York rifle practice not only appear in the official military reports. but they are matters of public notoriety. There s searcely a leading paper which has not fremently alluded to the matter. (In Tue Sun. Sept. 13, 1877.) And the great improvement in military efficiency which has resulted from this practice has been often testified to by army offipractice has been often testified to by army onecers before committees of Congress. For the
benefit of "M, V, M,," and all who are in a similar state of ignorance, it may be well to state
that, prior to the establishment of Creedmoor,
in 1873, it was the rule in the New York National Guard, as in all other militia organizations, for men to serve their full term of cullstment without firing a shot. In 1873, Creedmoor
was thrown open to voluntary practice by the
First and Second Divisions, with the result of
creating some fair teams and individual shots,
Nothing, however, was accomplished in the
way of instructing the rank and file. In 1874,
the regiments of these divisions were ordered
there for one day each. No systematic plan of
instruction having been adopted, the only result was to demonstrate that the men, as a
class, knew nothing about shooting.

The present system was adoped in 1875, and
since then the progress has been continuous.
According to the official reports the number
who practised at the ranges was 13,343 in 1877,
as against 10,946 in 1876, and 7,670 in 1875. Of
these 8,024 to 68 per cent, qualified at 100 and
150 yards, as against 5,341 in 1876, and 2,235 in
1875. The number cent, qualified
at 300 and 400 yards, as against 2,909 in 1876,
and 802 in 1875. The number candifying as ers before committees of Congress. For the

1875. Of these 4.930 (or 61 per cent.) qualified at 300 and 400 vards, as against 2,909 in 1876, and 802 in 1875. The number qualifying as marksmen being 2,126, as against 148 in 1876 (a gain of 134 per cent.), and 533 in 1875.

Although the rules have been made stricter and the qualifications for the marksman's backer more difficult by the abedition of sighting shots, the improvement in 1878 will be even greater. While in 1877 it was considered creditable for a regiment to get 50 per cent, of a shooting detachment out of the third class, it is common now for 80 per cent, to qualify.

When the Forty-seventh Regiment took down its "duffers" on the 6th inst, out of 22 who shot in the third class, 18 qualified. These, with 67

regiment out of the third class, it is common now for 80 per cent to qualify.

When the Forty-seventh Regiment took down its "duffers" on the 6th inst, out of 22 who shot in the third class 18 qualified. These, with 67 second-class men who had previously failed to qualify, shot for the marksman's badge, and 44 qualified—over 50 per cent. To-day there are a number of companies in the National Guard (such as Company A. Forty-eight Regiment: Companies I and H. Seventh, and others) fully half of whose men are marksmen, and to become a marksman is by no means an easy task. Perhaps a more striking illustration is presented by the contess for the Nevada badge, as those required 35 men to compete, and their secres, therefore, form a fair test of the skill of the commanies competing. In 1876 three companies shot, the averages being 25, 22, and 20 per men respectively. In 1878 twelve companies have entered, one (Company A. Forty-eighth) making 1,222 or 35 per man, and others secres between 900 and 1,100. In fact, the score of this company at 200 yards (624) was 64 points more than that of the seven highest teams selected from the different regiments of the Massachusetts milltin who shot in their annual match at South Framingham July 30, and their average themely 17, 30-85 per man) is nearly three points more than the qualiflention for competitors for the team which is to represent Massachusetts in the inter-State and interhational rille matches, as prescribed in Col. Kingsbury's circular of Aug. 30, 1878. If the figures of New York teams were to be given they would be found much higher, but I do not consider them a fair criterion as a poor shooting regiment may have a strong team.

As far as the "scores at Walnut Hill," to which M.Y. M. refers, are concerned, it may not be improper to remark that, while the riflement from the military authorities of Massachusetts, they also know that the most of Massachusetts regarded the instruction of its military authorities of Massachusetts regarded the instruction of the monitiary a

of the most important element entering into the possible warfare for which they are supposed to be trained." If he had he would not have spoken so disparagingly of New York rifle practice.

This letter has already outgrown its intended limits, yet I cannot close it without protesting against "M. V. M.'s" argument "that discipline is more important than rifle practice," as not a fair statement of the case. Every intelligent officer will concede that encampments are a good thing, and it is to be regreated that we have not more of them in New York. He will also concede that discipline is indispensable. But discipline is of slow growth, and the idea of anything worthy of the name being developed in an annual five days encampment is preposterous. It is simply impossible to create in a militia force the discipline of a regular army, encampments or no encampments.

preposterous. It is simply impossible to create in a milital force the discipline of a regular army, encampments or no encampments. There is but one way to supply it, and that is by the personal confidence which comes to each man when he knows that he and his courades are masters of their rifles, and therefore personally superior to their adversaries.

With an respect for the Massachus-sus militia. I think that any effleer would prefer to face "a large and determined med with a single company of trained marksmen, who feet certain of nitting their man every time at 200 yards, and being able to fire twelve to fifteen shots a minute taking aim, than with one who had devoted five days manually in camp to learning how to do everything with their rifles except to shoot with accuracy, and who know their own and their comrades want of skill.

In conclusion, I may remark that Col. Emposs Clark, commanding a regiment known as the Sventh, N. G. S. N. Y., of which "M. V. M." the Seventh, N. G. S. N. V., of which "M. V. M." may pechaps have heard, recently stated publicly to the Adjutant-General that comparing the firing in his regiment when on duty in 1877 with that which he had observed when it was under arms upon former occasions, he consultered that its efficiency had thereased more than tenfold, through the skill it had acquired in rifle practice since 1875.

New York, Sept. 16, 1878.

# DR. CARVER ON RIFLE SHOOTING.

### A Letter that Shows Very Clearly His Contempt for Creedmoor Practice.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sic: So. many letters have been written to the papers men concerning my shooting, its officacy, &c. that it is perhaps my duty to contribute an artiele and correct many erroneous impressions formed also explain to the sportsmen of the terested in rifle shooting, the advantage to be sire to become fine shots with a shotgun, it may

ein some practical end, who, when a in some practical end, who, when a can bring down his game or make insive or defensive demonstration en circumstances or deficit en epractical shooter is a man who cole with plain open sights, quickly let an object, either stationary or in a nobject, either stationary or in a consistent when the practical end of the consistent end of th rifle with plain open sights, quickly locate, and hit on object, either stationary or in metion, at a distance from one to three or four hundred pands, the size of the object to be taken into consideration. For instance, in hunting deer or elk, you may of course, got many close shots, but you will get many more at long range. Then is the time a man can show whether he is a practical shot or one who has learned to shoot at Creedmoor-who cannot guess distance, holds his left hand lack by the guard, rests his arm upon his bit, has a man with a red and oback dask to mark his shots, and, after resting his clow from thirty seconds to two minutes, takes down his gan, sambes sweetly, draws a long breath, then waits for the wind to hull. If he scores a three, he remarks, "This is not myday!" Where would such a man's breakfast go to, supposing it to be in the shape of a big lack clk clambing a hill three hundred yards away? By the time he had got his clow minuted down between his ribs and resting on his hip, said breakfast would be sconling for postures new in the blace Hills, and our hunter would be like Gen. Howard, who read his Bide and said a little prayer asking that Culef Joseph would camp until he (Howard) could find his trail!

Practical rifle shooting is shown by fighting Indians successfully. You cannot kill Indians

Practical rifle shooting is shown by fighting indians successfully. You cannot kill Indians Practical rifle shooting is shown by fighting Indians successfully. You cannot kill Indians with a Bible, nor can you become a practical rifle shot by plugging holes in a five-by-ten board, with a six-inch ring and a man to mark your shots. To show how absurd such shooting is for practical purposes, as in the practice done at targets, where you know the exact distance, go to a strange piece of ground, take objects the size of your bull's-eye, have some one place them all the way from 200 to 350 yards you of course hot knowing how far distant they are, and have no man with a disk to mark your green. you of course not knowing how far distant they are, and have no man with a disk to mark your shots, then fire ten shots appeae. If you hit your objects you are a good shot—at stationary game. Now try your skill at something in motion the size of a man's body, first to the right, then to the left, distance not known, and you will be surprised at how often you miss it at less than a hundred yards, if going as fast as a man can run.

Supposing you are in battle, where all is com- either children or adults.-Ade

motion; at such times your enemy will not wait for you to lie down and assume your favorite position, fire two or three sighting shots, adjust your wind gauge, send back to town for a different style of ammunition—your builets are a little to light, perhaps—or "it may not be your day"—no flags to mark the wind, &c. Imagine yourself fighting the Indians. Now, in the Indian so the country, the wind most always blows. Suppose you see a big Indian sitting on a rock smoking his pipe—or is he singing his death song? You crawl behind a sage bush and say to yourself, "That Indian is about five hundred yards away." It pipe—or is he singing his death song? You crawl behind a sage bush and say to yourself, "That Indian is about five hundred yards away." It pigoes the wind gauge, you rest your gan between your tees; two minutes pass; the Indian sees a little puff of blue smoke; you look for Mr. Indian to jump up and fail, your kaife already loosened in your belt! He remains motionless and undisturbed! You are somewhat astonished at the result, and say to yourself. "Surely, I will fotch him next time." But before you shoot again you must clean your gun, for you know it would never do to shoot a long range gun more than once without cleaning. You devote nearly half a day to this work after each shot. A man rides up and exclaims. "Good morning, stranger. What are you don't seem at all disturbed, and I think it very strange. I am a newspaper man from New York; was born in the Fifth Ward, and have been shooting at Creedmoor for four years, where I can make good scores, but I can't hit that blasted Indian, and don't believe I am a good indge of distance." The stranger looks at him a moment with a twinkle in his eye, and as he turns to drive away he says. "Stranger, that's a mighty safe redskin, for, de you know that Iniun is more than a mie away?"

Of course an Indian would obligingly sit still for any one to shoot at him, and the clear atmosphere of their country would not deceive a man from the Fifth Ward, because he is a prac

from the Fifth Ward, because he is a practical rifle shot à la Creedmoor.

Men to be good practical rifle shots must have experience, and when some style of shooting is invented where men can shoot at objects both in motion and stationary, not knowing the distance, become good judges thereof, hold their hand out on the gun so they can control it quickly and shoot with a certainty, then we will have practical riflemen—men who can hunt and fight without looking for a disk, &c. Every one knows how easy it is to hit a bird flying with a shotgun, and how at short range they will invariably hit him with the centre of the charge. Men never think of shooting at a bird slitte, simuly because they have been ed-

day nearly as perfect in shooting at flying objects with a rifle.

I am willing to acknowledge that what I do ray be improved upon, and give as my shooting, considered so wonderful at present, will be child's play as compared with the skill which future generations will achieve. Some people call me a wizard and others a trick shooter, while others assert that I am peculiarly gifted; but the fact is the shooting I do has come from years of hard and constant labor. The hardest life a man can possibly lead is hunting upon the plains. Twenty-seven years of steady Western life, dependent solely upon my own exertions, has taught me what I really know of rifle shooting. Was not that life of all things practical, and in nature should it not produce practical results? I have hunted for the market many years, learning nothing of trickery or gractical results? I have builted for the market nany years, learning nothink of trickery or leception by my calling, and what I am about o say in behalf of my shooting I know from experience to be true. Why, my style of shootdeception by my calling, and what I am about to say in behalf of my shooting I know from experience to be true. Why, my style of shooting is the very first principle and really the loundation of practical rife shooting. All men who wish to become perfect in the use of either rifle or shotgun should commence by shooting at flying objects. It is very easy to hit an object thrown into and moving in the air provided you point, your gun at it. This may seem a foolish remark, and provocative of laughter by its simplicity, yet that is all that can be said, and is the secret of hitting anything with either rifle. In shooting at moving objects with a rifle or shotgun, but more particularly with the rifle. In shooting at moving objects with a rifle a man seen learns to take deliberate aim, and to understand perfectly well that if he does not he will surely miss. This style of sheeting makes a man handle a gun with the rapidity of lightning, and in a short time—or a few years—he does it with such case as to make many call it "trick shooting" or "sleight of hand," when in reality it is nothing but a degree of perfection resulting from practice. Many think I do not take aim. In fact, this has puzzled many theorists and has been a noint of considerable. reality it is nothing but a degree of perfective measulting from practice. Many think I do take aim. In fact, this has puzzled many sorists, and has been a point of considerable considerable considerable. These who think I do not take aim a mistaken. Should I not take aim I never uld hit an object. Let any one practise my lee of shooting with a rifle for a short time, the even moderate success, and then take up a otigan, and for the first time in his life he il discover how easy it is to hit anything with scatter gan, and, by virtue of the nicety with the most draw his bead with a le, what perfect control he has of his origin; then, on the other hand, how easy is for him to hit a moving object with a le aimost any distance. There is no question that my style of shooting will revolution be

come to my

rescue, I remain very truly yours.
Dr. W. F. Carver.
Champion Rifle Shot of the World.
Pittsburgh, Sept. 18, 1878.

The Clergy and the Yellow Fever. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your Episspal correspondent, who signs himself Scrutator, diays astonishing ignorance of the conduct of several

considered.

In this way a clerywing recommended to his heavers that they should apprepriate their money solely for the relief of his way seek. His goode rates [888]. Suppose this said should be sent to Holly Spring, where the two Protestant practices have described their rold, whom would the energyman appear his official almone? But this is not the time for bigoted or sectional belings. Myremarks were made for and to mis own people. I wished them to know what their fellow Catholies had done. If my remarks had been reported in this they should rather have been prestuctive of love than of Protestant Jacksonsy. I trust I am explained.

Paster of St. Agnes Church.

Defective Sleepers on the Southern Railroad of Long Island TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Southern Railroad track between Metropolitan avenue and the ordize across Grand street at Maspeth, according to the moles taken by me to-day, has 378 defective sleepers—so

# Another Centennial Exhibition.

To the Epiron or The SUN-Sur: It is proposed that in 1850 a grand international Exhibition as held in the city of New York. It will be the center-

Ex-Gov. Stanford of San Francisco is said to The above item is on its rounds. It is probably erro

### Maine. There's music in the air.

Deny it if you dare, For Uneard it as it echoed o'er the plain. There was triumph in the note As upon my ear it smote, So I listened, for I knew it came from Maine.

Then I heard a bitter wail: "Oh, the jig is up with Hale, All his iontest hopes are shattered by the blast. Oh, you should have heard the crash

To be numbered with the mem'ries of the past."

There's a saving very old. 'Tis a long lane that hasn't any turn." It was verified again
By the turn of things in Maine, Where the fires of reform begin to burn.

Are you right sure that you are so physically constituted is to be executed from all attacks of cramps, choisers mortans, diarrhea, or dyscutery? It not, it would be prudent to provide yourself with Dr. Jayne's Carminative Balsam, a safe medicine for these affections, and a sure curative for summer complaint and all diseases of the bowels, in

SUNBEAMS.

Lindblad, Jenny Lind's teacher, a Swed-

The Countess of Ariosto, the last idendant of the poet, has just died at Ravenna, aced 90.

Daniel P. Stone of Malden, Mass., is aid to have left \$1,000,000 to benevolent objects and \$100,000 to his pastor.

During eight years of employment by a

Chicago firm of jewellers, T. W. Marchesi stole \$25,000 worth of diamonds to give to his many lair friends. -When the latest mails left London 581 bodies had been recovered of those who lost their lives through the sinking of the Princess Alice steamer.

-Christ Church, Boston, has erected a tablet commemorative of the hanging of the lanterns in the Old North Church on the memorable occasion of At a large hotel in Scarborough it is said

the landlord loses as many as fourteen hundred nankins a year by reason of the guests putting them in their -Kollmer, Holstein, has just had the diamond wedding, or seventy-fifth marriage anniversary of two of its 1,400 parishioners. Two more such occasions are near at hand, and during the last fourteen years ten

-Croizette, the French actress, is said by the Drawatic Ners to have received an offer from an American manager for a short tour in this country, and to be anxious to come. The consent of the Theatre Fran--Twenty-five thousand Russian medals

have been sent to Bucharest for the Roumanian troops who were around Pievna. This figure, therefore, represonts the number of survivors of the campaign in the nian army which crossed the Day A Boston lawyer has a letter written in

ing that the financial standing of Webster be inquired into, as they could not obtain any settlement from him. A juror in a San Francisco murder trial offered to insure an acquittal or a disagreement for \$300.
The prisoner informed the court, clear proof was ob-

tained, and the rascal was out in jail. He is said to have made a business of getting on juries and selling himselt. -The Arctic whale is a failure this year, Up to the 12th of July not one vessel of the fleet had caught a single fish, and none of the vessels had been able

No less than three important will contests are pending in Philadelphia, in which the alleged grounds of contest are that the instruments offered for probate are forgeries. One of the estates, that of Robert Whitaker, amounts to between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000.00. and the other estates are large.

-Many Dutch journals criticise severely the proposed marriage between the King of Holland and a Princess of Waldeck. They say that on the threshold of age he seeks compensation for the loss which he has suffered of a wife whom he cannot forget in a marriage

-A servant girl in one of the summer cottages recently burned in Lenex, Mass., carefully gathered \$7.000 worth of lewelry in her apron and started dowe

stairs. Before getting out she remembered that her own modey was in her room in the attic, and so threw away the contents of her apron and rushed back to save \$100. -Cholera of a virulent type has been committing great havon in the city of Indore. People are dying in hundreds daily. A fakir, who is in the service of the Maharajah Holkar, is doing, or pretending to do Att in his power to drive out the disease from the city He assured the Maharajah that he would at once check the further progress of it by sticking kubuj (a piece of

paper with Arabic incantations written on it; on the door -The Chamber of Commerce of Foochow, having called the attention of the foreign Consuls to the leaves with tea leaves, the Governor of Foochow has isleaves with tea leaves, the threatening delinquents with severs sued a proclamation threatening delinquents with severs punishment. Those at the head of the scheme, he says, numerous, and any person who proves the guilt of

ne of them will receive 100 prastres. "Let all," he adds, trouble and obey One summer morning, two years ago, the Emperor of Brazil stood at the grave of Samuel Taylor Coloridge in Highgate Cometery. He lately sent a silver vase to Mr. Allsop, the poet's only surviving per sonal friend, whose recollections of Coleridge were pub-lished years ago. The vase is inscribed: "To Thomas

Allsop, from Pedro III, in recognition of interesting docu-ments and letters throwing light on the life of S. T. Cole-ridge, as the only surviving friend of the philosopher and poet, whom I loved living and honor dead. Erysipelas in the head has lately afflicted Caleb Cushing, and he has been compelled to

orrhages of the lungs, but is getting better. Prof. Swing's lips is beginning to feel the weight of his years, and cannot travel far this season to lecture -Fortune telling is carried to an extent in San Francisco unknown in this city. Some of the wom engaged in the business charge from \$5 to \$19 for an

terview, and are visited by credulous stock speculators votes herself to love afform exclusively, another pre-diets the duration of any person's life. Several are no-toriously given to blackmailing, to accomplish which her use information shrewdly gained from dupes.

The earliest notice of yellow fever is that of Lagen, in his "History of Barbadoes". He there st that it broke out early in September, 1617, and that fore the expiration of a month " the living were scarcel able to bury the dead." Thereafter it did not attain an very remarkable severity until 1793, when it destroyed not less than 6,000 men of the garrison of Port Royal in the course of a few months. In 1804 it was brought to? the south of Spain, and visited Cadiz, Malaga, and Carthagens. But its greatest force fell upon Gibraltar, where

-Experiments are being made by the Government of New Zealand with a view to acclimatizing the English humblebee. The object is to assist the New Zea-Land across the cultivating their fields of clover.

Common bers are not strong enough to force their way into the petals of the clover flower, and thus fertilize the plants as they fly from one to another. For this purpose, therefore, the humblebee is needed, but so far the next sent out have been destroyed. Attempts to accumulate the control of th the common bee in some hot climates have so far proved cless. After a short period they quit the hives and can-

not be entired back.

-The head gardener in the Botanical Gardens at singapore had rather a dangerous adventure re-cently with the python presented to the gardens by the Maharajah of Johore. The creature is singgish in his habits and allows liberties to be taken with him. One day the gardener entered the python's cage and was showing to a rriend that he could do as he pleased with him, when suddenly, irritated by a kick on the head, the python coiled himself quickly round the gardener's body, and had well nigh succeeded in squeezing the life out of him before assistance, arrived in the shape of Private him before assistance arrived in the shape of Private John Adolphus of Her Majesty's Twenty eighth Reginent, who very pluckily seized the snake, and, by sheer

-Miss Wardlake rejected one lover and married another. This was in Juanita Cab, of which place she was regarded as the belle. The welders brought together all the fashionable folks of the place, including Henry Barron, the rejected suitor, who band the rest in seemingly heartfelt congratulations of the bride. It was atterward remembered, however, that he part of the retreshments. Just before the assemblace was about to disperse, Earron approached the bride, tearing two glasses of wine. He handed her are and drank the other himself, saying significantly, "Let us drink together once more, for the last time on earth." She was rather saddened by his words, but supposed that they referred to the necessary end of their intercourse, and drank the wine. In half an hour both were dead Barron had put person in the wine

-An insight of circus life is given by &

Philadelphia lawsuit brought by the Society for the vention of Cruelty to Children. Three years as-Lucy Coles was left a widow with three children wh she made heroic struggles to support, but soon found her-self in the depth of poverty. One of the children was a pretty girl of 7. A friend suggested that she be taught to be a circus performer. A trainer of youthnu archaits and riders was made her legal guardien until she was is. In return for her services she was to be tell and called In return for her services she was to be to leave and was to have eleven quarters' schooling di-apprenticeship. The trainer took the child and through risorous training. The lessons were et-culcated by the ringmaster's rating whose s-taught to leap and ride barchack, to stand on and hold the other out at a sign board angle hand, to pirometic, to bump through the pater hours, to repeat with her legs at 11,511 and as-body, and various other texts that are only neg-long, hard practice. Her companions were bu-little ones. She went at first and made many lelittle ones. She went at first and made man but the fear of the lash soon forced her into an acquiment of the lessons. Then she was taken to a dan master, who taught her hig steps and fancy por was placed in the care of a woman who travel O'Brien's Circus, and with the troupe she man through the country. The woman who had her in charse is said to have traversed the continent without payors fare for her, hiding her beneath her skirts by day. Lately she perfermed in Philadelphia, and her mother had hereyes opened to the real dangers to which she was

subjected in her equestrian work.